



# Hudsonville

United Church of Christ  
*Open & Affirming*

**May 25, 2025**

**Rev. Dr. Daniel Furman, Senior Pastor (he, him)**  
**Mr. Rae Mieskowski, Student Pastor (he, him)**

***No matter who you  
are or where  
you are on life's  
journey, you are  
welcome here!***



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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THANK YOU

Our musician this morning is Ali Bendert (she/her). Thank you for sharing your music ministry with us!

### GRADUATION SUNDAY

Next Sunday we will recognize any high school or college graduates. If you or someone you love is a graduate and would like to be recognized, please let Pastor Dan know.

### FEEDING AMERICA

Our next Feeding America food distribution is Thursday, June 5. We will be looking for volunteers any time between 5 and 7pm. We are also collecting hygiene products (toothpaste, shampoo, soaps) to give away.

### HAND2HAND

Hand2Hand's needs for the rest of the school year are small containers of peanut butter. We will collect until June 9.

### BARGAIN SHOP

The Bargain Shop is preparing for September. Start saving your donations (including clothing!) which we will start collecting at the church in August.

For those who  
passed while  
serving

For those who  
served and  
passed later



## PRAYERS

Remember our elderly and home bound, anyone facing illness this morning, the families of Palestine, and all those who are grieving the loss of loved ones. Paul Lidgard, Kendra Simon, Al Wooton, Sonny Bailey, and Big Rapids UCC.

**PRELUDE.....** "Wartime Prayer"

## **WELCOME AND SHARING OF ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Pastor: Let us sing praises to our God!

**All: We are here to celebrate God's goodness.**

Pastor: We are called to be witnessing people.

**All: We testify to God's loving purpose in Jesus Christ.**

Pastor: Give thanks for the promised coming of the Holy Spirit.

**All: We eagerly await the renewal we find in God.**

**OPENING SONG.....** "I'll Fly Away"  
Hymn #779 (red)

Some glad morning, when this life is o'er  
I'll fly away  
To that home on God's celestial shore  
I'll fly away

I'll fly away, oh glory  
I'll fly away  
When I die, hallelujah, by and by  
I'll fly away

When the shadows of this life have gone  
I'll fly away  
Like a bird from prison bars has flown  
I'll fly away

I'll fly away, oh glory  
I'll fly away  
When I die, hallelujah, by and by  
I'll fly away

Just a few more weary days and then  
I'll fly away  
To a land where joys shall never end  
I'll fly away

I'll fly away, oh glory  
I'll fly away  
When I die, hallelujah, by and by  
I'll fly away

**"Memorial Day is a day to honor those who died  
defending our freedom and democracy."**

**Retired Representative Doc Hastings (WA) (Rep)**





**OUR CHILDREN'S MOMENT**.....Katrina Furman (she/her)

## **PASSING THE PEACE**

### **UNISON PRAYER**

Loving God, we seek to know you more fully in this time of worship. Grant us knowledge beyond words, a presence that transcends description, and a hope that empowers faithful service. As we sing your praises, we reach out with longing hearts to know the power of the Spirit which you have promised to also renew your Church. Comfort us, quiet us, focus us, and then fill us with your grace that we might share the peace of Christ and spread the glory of God. Amen.

**REFLECTION SONG**....."Angel Dream No. 4"

I dreamed you, I saw your face.  
Cut my lifeline when drifting through space.  
I saw an angel, I saw my fate.  
I can only thank God it was not too late.

Over mountains, I floated away.  
Cross an ocean, I dreamed her name.  
I followed an angel down through the gates.  
I can only thank God it was not too late.

Sing a little song of loneliness,  
Sing one to make me smile.  
Another round for everyone,  
I'm here for a little while.  
Now I'm walkin' this street on my own.  
But she's with me everywhere I go.

Yeah, I found an angel, I found my place.  
I can only thank God it was not too late.  
I can only thank God it was not too late.  
I can only thank God it was not too late

**SCRIPTURE READING**.....Luke 24:44-53  
Angel Dannenberg (she/her)

**44** Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled."

**45** Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,

**46** and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day

**47** and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

**48** You are witnesses of these things.

**49** And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised, so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

**50** Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them.

**51** While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven.

**52** And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy,

**53** and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

**SERMON**....."Rising Up"  
Pastor Dan Furman (he/him)



**PRAYER SONG.....** "Softly and Tenderly"  
Hymn #479 (red)

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,  
Calling for you and for me.  
See on the portal He's waiting and watching,  
Watching for you and for me.

Come home, come home  
You who are weary, come home.  
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,  
Calling "O sinner, come home!"

Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,  
pleading for you and for me?  
Why should we linger and heed not His  
mercies, mercies for you and for me?

Come home, come home  
You who are weary, come home.  
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,  
Calling "O sinner, come home!"

Time is now fleeting; the moments are  
passing, passing from you and from me.  
Shadows are gathering; death's night is  
coming; coming for you and for me.

Come home, come home  
You who are weary, come home.  
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,  
Calling "O sinner, come home!"

O for the wonderful love He has promised,  
Promised for you and for me!  
Though we have sinned,  
He has mercy and pardon,  
Pardon for you and for me.

Come home, come home  
You who are weary, come home.  
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,  
Calling "O sinner, come home!"

**PASTORAL PRAYER.....** The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine, is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

**THE OFFERTORY.....** "Square One"

Had to find some higher ground, had some fear to get around  
You can't say what you don't know, later on won't work no more  
Last time though I hid my tracks, so well I could not get back  
Yeah my way was hard to find, can't sell your soul for peace of mind

Square one, my slate is clear, we can rest our heads on Him, my dear  
It took a world of trouble, it took a world of tears, it took a long time to get back here

Try so hard to stand alone, struggle to see past my nose  
Always had more dogs than bones, I could never wear those clothes  
It's a dark victory, you won and you also lost  
Told us you were satisfied, but it never came across

Square one, my slate is clear, we can rest our heads on Him, my dear  
It took a world of trouble, it took a world of tears, it took a long time to get back here  
(repeat)

## DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

**CLOSING SONG**....."Sweet By and By"  
Hymn #778 (red)

There's a land that is fairer than day, and by faith we can see it afar;  
For the Father waits over the way to prepare us a dwelling place there.  
In the sweet by and by, we shall meet on that beautiful shore.  
In the sweet by and by, we shall meet on that beautiful shore.

We shall sing on that beautiful shore the melodious songs of the blest;  
And our spirits shall sorrow no more, not a sigh for the blessing of rest.  
In the sweet by and by, we shall meet on that beautiful shore.  
In the sweet by and by, we shall meet on that beautiful shore.

To our bountiful Father above we will offer our tribute of praise,  
For the glorious gift of His love and the blessings that hallow our days.  
In the sweet by and by, we shall meet on that beautiful shore.  
In the sweet by and by, we shall meet on that beautiful shore.

## BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE**....."Wartime Prayer"



## Open & Affirming Statement

Hudsonville Congregational United Church of Christ is an Open and Affirming church. We celebrate our human family's diversity of race, age, cultural background, physical and mental ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, family structure, education, faith history, economic status, marital status, spiritual journey, and life circumstances. Aided by this God-given gift of diversity, we strive to reflect God's unconditional love to all creation, and we affirm that all people are created in God's image. We welcome the full inclusion of all people in the life and ministries of Hudsonville Congregational United Church of Christ. We believe that God is still speaking and as Jesus prayed, one day we will all be one.

We recognize that the universal church has at times rejected difference and denied God's promises for itself and others. We believe we can love alike, even though we may not think alike. So, we boldly proclaim, "Welcome, ALL who seek God's life-giving grace. Come as you are, so together, we will make a world of difference."

Email	Contact Person	Usage
<a href="mailto:pastordan@hudsonvilleucc.org">pastordan@hudsonvilleucc.org</a>	Rev. Dr. Dan Furman (he/him)	pastoral inquiries, emergency pastoral care
<a href="mailto:pastorrae@hudsonvilleucc.org">pastorrae@hudsonvilleucc.org</a>	Mr. Rae Mieskowski (he/him)	Student Pastor, group support, open and affirming
<a href="mailto:moderator@hudsonvilleucc.org">moderator@hudsonvilleucc.org</a>	Christina Breen (she/her)	moderator inquiries, meeting questions, anything needing to be brought to Council
<a href="mailto:treasurer@hudsonvilleucc.org">treasurer@hudsonvilleucc.org</a>	Taliyn Merchant (she/her)	financial matters, giving, payments, bills
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